The Central Government supplements the efforts and resources of the State Governments by various means, which include deployment of Central paramilitary forces to assist the State police forces, sanctioning of India Reserve battalions to the States, assistance for strengthening of the State police and intelligence agencies, reimbursement of security-related expenditure, assistance in training of State police forces, sharing of intelligence, bringing about inter-State coordination and assistance in development works.

**Amendment to prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954 by Maharashtra**

323. SHRI MANOHAR JOSHI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government of Maharashtra amended the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954 so as to make all punishable offences cognizable and non-bailable;

(b) whether it is also a fact that presently the proposal is pending with the Ministry for comments;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) by when his Ministry propose to send the above mentioned Bill for assent of President of India; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO GAVIT): (a) The Prevention of Food Adulteration (Maharashtra Amendment) Bill, 2006 passed by the Maharashtra Legislature was reserved by the Governor of Maharashtra for assent of President under Article 200 of the Constitution of India. The Bill provides for making all offences punishable under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954, congnizable and non-bailable, so far its application to the State of Maharashtra is concerned.

(b) No, Sir. The President has given her assent to the Bill on 28th October, 2007. This fact has been communicated to the Secretary to the Governor of Maharashtra through a letter dated 31st October, 2007.

(c) to (e) Does not arise.

**Violation of rules by Blue line buses**

324. SHRI MOTIUR RAHMAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that Blue line buses in Delhi overtake from the left side;

(b) if so, to what extent overtaking from the left side is in violation of MVA and rules framed thereunder;

(c) the number of Blue line buses booked for violating the overtaking from the left; and

(d) whether there is any proposal to amend the Act to impose stricter fine and jail to the drivers committing the offence?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI): (a) to (d) The Supreme Court of India in CWP No. 13029/85-MC Mehta Vs. UOI & Others in its direction dated 20.11.1997 has ordered that "In view the scheme of the Act necessarily implies an obligation to use the vehicle in a manner which does not imperil public safety. The authorities aforesaid should, therefore ensure that the transport vehicles are not permitted to overtake any other four-wheel motorized vehicle". In view of the above, the transport vehicles including blue line buses in Delhi are not permitted to overtake any other four wheeled motorized vehicle. The